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**MISSOURI HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**
STANLEY COX
State Representative - District 118

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January 12, 2010

Honorable Jay Nixon, Governor
216 State Capitol, 201 West Capitol Street
Post Office Box 720
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0720

RE: PROPOSED FEDERAL HEALTHCARE LEGISLATION

Dear Governor Nixon:

According to a Rasmussen Reports poll released just a few days ago, 55 percent of the American people oppose and only 40 percent support the federal healthcare takeover and mandate being thrust upon us by President Obama, Senate Majority Leader Reid and Speaker Nancy Pelosi. The legislation is convoluted and full of provisions that will raise the cost of living for most everyone in our state. Up to this point, you have chosen to remain silent and not disclose whether you support the efforts of your fellow Democrats in Congress. This legislation is likely to be considered for final passage in the next few weeks.

Despite your silence, Governors in other states publicly warned that this legislation will bankrupt their states. Included in this group of Governors is fellow Democrat Governor Bredesen of our neighboring state of Tennessee. Governor Bredesen called this legislation the "mother of all unfunded mandates" and opposed the legislation. Missouri's share of the cost of an expanded Medicaid program would be as high as \$450 million per year. The Medicaid program already requires more than \$100 million per year in new funding for natural caseload growth. In light of the "special deal" that other state's Senators cut to assure its passage thru that house, there is a moral aspect of this legislation that requires all of us to take a position.

Some argue this federal takeover is an infringement on our State's Sovereignty and is unconstitutional. Regardless of this issue, unless you desire to cut funding to public education, Missouri simply does not have the money to afford President Obama, Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi's social experiment. Governor Nixon, you know the legislation being forced through by your Democrat Party will bankrupt the state of Missouri and yet you say nothing. The time has come for you and all other elected State Officials to take a side on this issue.

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Will you stand with me and oppose the tax increases, healthcare takeover and mandates being proposed by the federal government? Or will you abandon your authority to the powers of your fellow Democrats who are currently in power in Washington D.C.? Missouri deserves prompt answer.

Sincerely,

Representative Stanley Cox
118th District

SBC/kkc